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from 8 to 10 carbon atoms, wherein said composition contains from about 0.05% to about 5.0% by weight of said compound, in an amount sufficient to enhance oxygen delivery to said tissue.

Claim 31 (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said nicotinic acid alkyl ester is applied topically.

Claim 32 (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said tissue is skin.

Claim 33 (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said nicotinic acid alkyl ester is nicotinic acid alkyl ester is nicotinic acid octyl ester.

Claim 34 (canceled)

Claim 35 The method of claim 30, wherein said composition contains from about 0.1% to about 1% by weight of said compound.

Claim 36 The method of claim 30, wherein said composition is a cream, a lotion, a salve, a balm, a roll-on stick, a wash, or a suppository.

Claim 37 (currently amended) The method of claim 30, wherein said composition further comprises butyl benzoate in an amount sufficient to modulate oxygenation by inhibiting conversion of said nicotinic acid alkyl ester to nicotinic acid.

Claim 38 (newly presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said alkyl group of said nicotinic acid alkyl ester consists of 8 carbon atoms.

Claim 39 (newly presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said alkyl group of said nicotinic acid alkyl ester consists of 9 carbon atoms.

Claim 40 (newly presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said alkyl group of said nicotinic acid alkyl ester consists of 10 carbon atoms.

Claim 41 The method of claim 30, wherein said composition enhances delivery of oxygen for at least 4 hours.